



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 228

January Session, 2003

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1086

Senate, April 8, 2003

The Committee on Insurance and Real Estate reported through SEN. CRISCO of the 17th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY SERVICES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) Each individual health
2 insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in
3 subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general
4 statutes delivered, issued for delivery, amended, renewed or
5 continued in this state on or after October 1, 2003, shall provide
6 coverage for medical nutrition therapy services ordered by a licensed
7 physician for the treatment or management of cancer or heart disease.
8 As used in this section, "medical nutrition therapy services" means
9 nutrition-related diagnostic, therapy and counseling services provided
10 by a certified dietitian-nutritionist, certified dietitian or certified
11 nutritionist.
- 12 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) Each group health insurance
13 policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2),

14 (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general statutes delivered,
15 issued for delivery, amended, renewed or continued in this state on or
16 after October 1, 2003, shall provide coverage for medical nutrition
17 therapy services ordered by a licensed physician for the treatment or
18 management of cancer or heart disease. As used in this section,
19 "medical nutrition therapy services" means nutrition-related
20 diagnostic, therapy and counseling services provided by a certified
21 dietitian-nutritionist, certified dietitian or certified nutritionist.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2003</i>

INS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Comptroller Misc. Accounts (Fringe Benefits)	Various - Cost	None	None
Insurance Dept.	IF - None	None	None

Note: IF=Insurance Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Various Municipalities	STATE MANDATE - Cost	Potential Indeterminate	Potential Indeterminate

Explanation

The bill requires certain health insurance policies to cover medical nutrition therapy services ordered by a licensed doctor for treating cancer or heart disease. The state employee and retiree health plans provide this coverage so there is no fiscal impact to the state.

Municipal Impact

To the extent that the coverage required under the bill is not currently provided under a municipality's employee health insurance plan, there may be increased municipal health costs to provide it. The bill's impact on municipal health insurance costs will vary by municipality depending on the current coverage and cannot be determined.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1086

AN ACT CONCERNING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY SERVICES**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires certain individual and group health insurance policies to cover medical nutrition therapy services ordered by a licensed doctor for treating or managing cancer or heart disease. Medical nutrition therapy services are nutrition-related diagnostic, therapy, and counseling services provided by dietitian-nutritionists, certified dietitians, or nutritionists.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2003

HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES AFFECTED

The bill applies to individual and group policies that pay for (1) basic hospital expenses, (2) basic medical-surgical expenses, (3) major medical expenses, (4) hospital or medical expenses, and (5) hospital and medical expenses paid by HMOs.

This new coverage applies to policies delivered, issued for delivery, amended, renewed, or continued in Connecticut on or after October 1, 2003.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 11 Nay 6